



WASHINGTON, D C 20301

In reply refer to:  
I-14473/82  
22 SEP 1982

POLICY

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL STILWELL

SUBJECT: Survey of Special Background Investigation (SBI)  
15 Year Period of Coverage-INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

On 15 June 1982, the Army, Navy, Air Force and DIS were tasked to conduct a two month survey (1 Jul 82-31 Aug 82) to determine how far back the SBI must go in order to uncover adverse information serious enough to warrant denial of access. This survey was prompted by two factors: (1) the Select Panel recommendation for DoD adoption of a single scope background investigation at the level mandated by DCID 1/14 and (2) the impact that such an investigative effort would have on DIS considering the required 15 year period of coverage for an SBI.

It has long been our position that a ten year investigative scope would be more than adequate coverage to reveal significant factors in a person's background that might affect their eligibility for access to sensitive compartmented information (SCI). In fact, the survey revealed that of the 7,385 total cases reviewed during the period, 213 were considered for an adverse action; of these only 2 cases were based on information developed exclusively in the over 10 year period. It also appears that in those instances the adverse information was of such a nature that it would have been uncovered in the course of a 10 year scope investigation or less.

As a result of this and other previous studies, and due to our concern over the impact that a single 15 year scope background investigation would have on DIS, a recommendation was made to the Personnel Security Subcommittee (PerSSub) of the DCI Security Committee (SECOM) to change DCID 1/14 coverage from 15 to 10 years. On 14 September 1982, the OSD proposal on this point was defeated by a vote of 7 to 5. However, I intend to pursue this action further directly with the SECOM principals and will keep you informed of my progress.

*VR Maynard*  
Maynard C. Anderson  
Director

Security Plans and Programs

Attachment

Summary of DoD Survey of SBI Period of Coverage

1. Adverse information appearing in only one year group category:

(1)	0 - 5 years:	166
(2)	6 - 10 years:	12
(3)	11 - 15 years:	1
(4)	16+ - years:	<u>1</u>

Total: 180

2. Adverse information appearing in more than one year group category:

(1)	0 - 5 years:	31
(2)	6 - 10 years:	29
(3)	11 - 15 years:	6
(4)	16+ - years:	<u>3</u>

Total: 69

3. Total of both the above categories:

(1)	0 - 5 years:	197
(2)	6 - 10 years:	41
(3)	11 - 15 years:	7
(4)	16+ - years:	<u>4</u>

Total: 249\*

\* This number totals more than 213 due to the fact that a number of cases reported adverse information in as many as three or four categories.